IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.	: 10/586,534	Confirmation No. : 1621	
First Named Inventor	: Takashi NOMURA		
Filed	: January 19, 2005		
TC/A.U.	: 2169		
Examiner	: Yu Zhao		
Docket No.	: 029267.58056US		
Title	: Search Data Update Method and Search Data Update System		

STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

An Examiner's Interview Summary Record (PTO-413) was mailed on

December 28, 2010. The Applicant thanks the Examiner and the Examiner's

supervisor for the courtesies extended during a personal interview with the

Applicant's undersigned representative on December 20, 2010.

During the personal interview, the Applicant's undersigned representative

discussed the remarks presented in the Reply dated November 10, 2010. In

addition, the Applicant's undersigned representative explained features of the

claimed invention. For example, initial search data are stored in a tree structure

in a first database, while update search data are stored in a non-tree structure in

a second database. The update search data are stored separately from the initial

search data.

As discussed during the interview, the initial search data and the update

search data are also searched separately. For example, claim 1 recites

performing _two_ separate searches "by using a tree-based search based on the

search tree data of the initial search data _and_ an index-based search using the

index of the update substance data" (emphasis added). The Applicant's

undersigned representative explained that claim 1 recites performing _both_ the

tree-based search on the initial search data _and_ the index-based search on the

update search data. This is contrary to the description in the Examiner's

Interview Summary Record, which incorrectly states that "the navigation system

will search the first database _and/or_ the second database" (emphasis added).[1]

During the interview, the Examiner stated that paragraph [0039] of

Tanaka discloses an original search list and a new search list. Referring to Figs.

7A and 7B of Tanaka, the Examiner agreed that both the original search list and

the new search list are stored in a _tree structure_. In contrast, the Applicant's

undersigned representative explained that the recited update search data are

stored in a _non-tree structure_.

The Examiner also stated that claim 1 does not clearly disclose when and

how the update search data are received. The Applicant's undersigned

representative indicated that this recital is not required for claim 1. The

Applicant's undersigned representative also noted that the specification

describes details of a non-limiting embodiment in which the user requests an

update (¶¶ [0026]-[0031]). In addition, the Applicant's undersigned

representative noted that the specification describes another non-limiting

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[1] The statement that "[w]hen user is searching for something that is not in the initial substance data but in the update substance date, the navigation system only needs to search fewer substance data (e.g. update substance data) which will return a search result faster" is also incorrect. Again, the navigation apparatus searches _both_ the initial search data and the update search data.

embodiment in which updated search data are automatically transmitted to the navigation apparatus (¶ [0056]).

Further, the Examiner asked what advantage is provided by storing the update search data in a non-tree structure. The Applicant's undersigned representative explained that this feature minimizes the volume of the update data and lowers the cost of transmitting the update data (¶¶ [0007] and [0057]). For example, to update the search data, only the updated search data and the corresponding index are transmitted and stored in a separate database of the navigation apparatus. The initial search data stored in the navigation apparatus are not affected, and it is unnecessary to update and reorganize the entire tree structure of the initial search data. This simplifies the data management of the update data by the navigation apparatus. Also, only a small storage capacity needs to be allocated for the update search data in the navigation apparatus.

In addition, the Examiner asked how the navigation apparatus determines which database needs to be searched. As discussed above, the navigation apparatus performs two separate searches (_both_ the tree-based search on the initial search data _and_ the index-based search on the update search data). The Applicant's undersigned representative explained that any increase in the search time caused by performing two separate searches may be offset by the decreases in the communication and data management costs described above.

The Examiner agreed to perform additional prior art searches to identify the features recited in the claims. The Examiner indicated that claims 6-8 may contain allowable subject matter.

It is respectfully submitted that the instant STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW complies with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§1.2 and 1.133 and MPEP §713.04.

Respectfully submitted,

January 5, 2011   /Suzanne C. Walts/
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